DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers Raleigh Regulatory Field Office 6508 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 120 Raleigh, North Carolina 27615-6814

(Web page - http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands/regtour.htin)

Action ID. 199700175

December 28, 2001

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS, 1548 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1548, has applied for a Department Of The Army (DA) Permit to authorize the proposed discharge of dredged and fill material impacting a total of 3.02 acres of waters of the United States, consisting of 2.64 acres of wetlands, 774 linear feet of stream, and 0.27 acre of a pond, for construction of WIDENING OF A SECTION OF NC 55 (T.I.P. No. R-2907), crossing BASAL CREEK, its unnamed tributaries, and adjacent wetlands, from southeast of SR 1108 to northwest of SR 1114, between FUQUAY VARINA and HOLLY SPRINGS, in WAKE COUNTY, North Carolina.

The following description of the work is taken from data provided by the applicant. Plans submitted with the application show the placement of fill material impacting a total of 3.02 acres of waters of the United States, including wetlands, between Fuquay-Varina and Holly Springs, in Wake County, North Carolina. These impacts are necessary for the construction of the widening of NC 55 (T.I.P. No. R-2907). The proposed widening extends 3.3 miles, from SR 1108 (Wake Chapel Road) to SR 1114 (Ralph Stevens Road). The widening will be done asymmetrically, and no control of access is proposed along the project.

The project will involve fill impacts to 0.38 acres of unvegetated waters of the United States. These impacts to stream channels (774 linear feet) and a portion of a pond occur at three locations along the project. At stream crossings, culverts or pipes will be used to allow for adequate hydrological flow underneath the roadway. The proposed construction will also impact 2.64 acres of vegetated wetlands by filling, excavation, and mechanized clearing. The impacted wetlands consist of palustrine forested, emergent, and pond fringe areas.

NCDOT is proposing payment to the North Carolina Wetland Restoration Program to provide compensatory mitigation for the wetland and stream impacts from this project.

The purpose of the work is to relieve congestion by increasing the traffic capacity, and to improve safety, on this section of NC 55. The applicant has considered several alternatives to the proposed project, including the no-build alternative, symmetrical widening, and non-symmetrical widening. In addition, the applicant has committed to measures to avoid and minimize wetland and stream impacts, including using 2:1 side slopes in wetland areas.

Overall plans showing the proposed construction are included with this public notice. Additional detailed plans may be reviewed at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Field Office at 6508 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 120, Raleigh, North Carolina 27615-6846, or at the offices of the North Carolina Division of Water Quality at the address shown below.

The State of North Carolina will review this public notice to determine the need for the applicant to obtain any required State authorization. No Department of the Army permit will be issued until the coordinated State viewpoint on the proposal has been received and reviewed by this agency, nor will a Department of the Army permit be issued until the North Carolina Division of Water Quality has determined the applicability of a Water Quality Certificate as required by PL 92-500.

This application is being considered pursuant to Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (33U.S.C. 1344). Any person may request, in writing within the comment period specified in the notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

NCDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have identified that there are three historic properties eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, within the area of potential effect of the project. NCDOT and FHWA, in consultation with the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), have determined that the project will have conditional no adverse effect on two of the properties. The project will adversely affect the Ashley Jeff Stephens Farm. NCDOT has committed to fulfilling conditions of the no adverse affect determinations, and NCDOT, FHWA, and SHPO have signed a Memorandum of Agreement concerning the necessary mitigative measures for impacts to the Stephens Farm. The District Engineer has consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places for the presence or absence of registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein, and the project does not impact any other registered property or property listed as being eligible for inclusion in the Register. Consultation of the National Register constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer. NCDOT has coordinated with SHPO, and SHPO has concurred that the project will not have any effect on archaeological resource properties eligible for inclusion in the Register. The District Engineer is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. Presently, unknown archeological,

scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may-be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit.

The District Engineer is not aware, based on available information, that the activity will affect species, or their critical habitat, designated as endangered or threatened pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts which the proposed activity may have on the public interest requires a careful weighing of all those factors which become relevant in each particular case. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving the placement of dredged or fill materials in waters of the United States, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria, a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

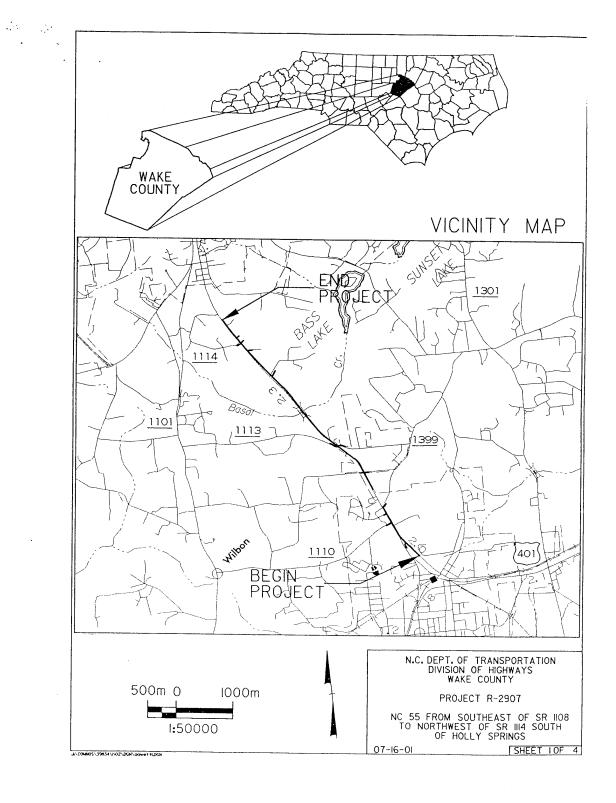
The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

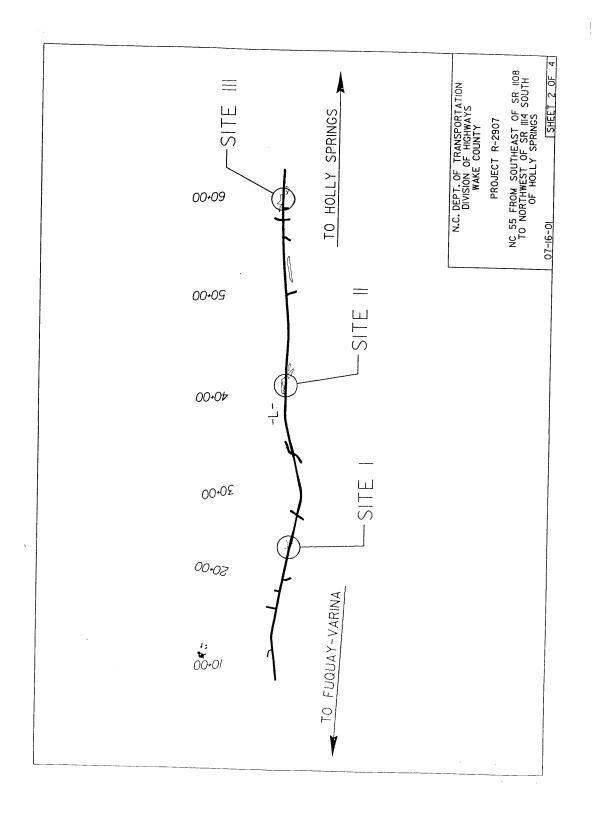
Generally, the decision whether to issue this DA permit will not be made until the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ) issues, denies, or waives State certification required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The NCDWQ considers whether or not the proposed activity will comply with Sections 301, 302, 306, and 307 of the Clean Water Act. The application and this public notice for the DA permit serves as application to the NCDWQ for certification.

Additional information regarding the Clean Water Act certification may be reviewed at the offices of the Wetlands /401 Unit, North Carolina DENR, Division of Water Quality, 2321 Crabtree Boulevard, Raleigh, North Carolina. Copies of such materials will be furnished to any person requesting copies upon payment of reproduction costs.

All persons desiring to make comments regarding the application for Clean Water Act certification should do so in writing delivered to the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Water Quality, 1650 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1650, on or before January 22, 2002, Attention: Mr. John Dorney.

Written comments pertinent to the proposed work, as outlined above, will be received in this office, Attention: Eric Alsmeyer, until 4:15 p.m., January 28, 2002, or telephone 919-876 8441, extension 23.





PARCEL NO.	PROPERTY OWNER NAME	PROPERTY OWNER ADDRESS
0	ILA J. BAREFOOT FARMS INC.	543 Stone Creek Rd, Four Oaks, N.C. 27524-382
(2)	PSNC	PO 80X (198 Gastonia, N.C. 28853-(19
(3)	GREENLAWN MEMORIAL GARDENS	PO 80X 85 Fuquay-Varina, N.C. 27526-008
(4)	CHARLES JOHNSON JR. & WANDA T.	1620 Brood Street
	HAZEL M. ROTH	Junary-Varina, N.C. 27526-336 34Lanedo Dr. Birminghom, Al. 35226-232
(6)	DUNA ADAMS	370(Southamaton C+
(1)	D. CARLYLE ADAMS JR.	Roleigh, N.C. 27634-332
(8)	FREDDY C. RAGAN	Roleigh, N.C. 27658-225
(9)	EDRITH D. POWELL	Fuquay-Varina, N.C. 27526-234 246 Broad Street
(10)	CLAIBORNE W. WILSON	Holly Springs, N.C. 2754 \$6828 1903 Spring Lone
	THOMAS P. HARRISON	Sanford, N.C. 27330-722 2424 Brood Street
(12)	HENRY A. COLLINS	Holly Springs, N.C. 27540-828 RR 2 BOX 106
(13)	FRANK C. MUNOZ JR.	Holly Springs, N.C. 27540-922 804 Somerset Form Dr.
(14)	SCUTHERN ATLANTIC RESIDENTIAL	Hoty Springs, N.C. 27540-889 224 Fayetteville St. Mat STE 300 Roleigh, N.C. 27601-37
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N.C. DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS WAKE COUNTY

PROJECT F .- 1307

NC 55 FROM SOUTHEAST OF SR 1108
TO NORTHWEST OF SR 1114 SOUTH
OF HOLLY SPRINGS

Site III: There are 0.183 ha of impacts to wetlands outside the limits of construction. A total of 0.512 ha of wetlands are affected for Site III SHEET 4 OF 4 PROJECT: R-2907

NC 55 FROM SOUTHEAST OF SR 1108 TO NORTHWEST OF

SR 1114 SOUTH OF HOLLY SPRINGS N.C. DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS WAKE COUNTY

NEWwetsum.xls

No. 39+55 - 42+80 -L-22+20 - 23+60 -LREV-Station 2 @ 3.0m x 3.6m Structure Size 0.389 Fill In Temp. Fill Excavation Cleaning
Wetlands In Wetlands In Wetlands (Method III)
(ha) (ha) (ha) (ha) 0.068 IMPACT SUMMARY WETLAND IMPACTS 0.329 0.102 0.047 0.329 0.081 0.021 | Fill In SW | Fill In SW | Temp. Fill | Channel | Chann 0.020 0.022 0.108 SURFACE WATER IMPACTS 235.69 88.69 Relocated Channel (m) 65.62 Enclosed Channel (m) 0.121 0.207 Zone 1 (ha) 0.078 BUFFER IMPACTS Zone 2 (ha) 0.051 0.085 0.08